

# ENERGY TIDBITS

April 2004

**Duo-Gard's Translucent Daylighting System** was recently installed at Detroit's Coleman A. Young Recreation Center. The custom-engineered system features glazing of 6 x 37 ft. sheets of 16 mm triple-wall polycarbonate in an aluminum framing system. The polycarbonate filters infrared rays as it adds R-2.5 (U-value .40) and a shading coefficient .38 to minimize solar gain when transmitting 50% diffused daylight. The system was one of Buildings Magazine's Top Products 2003. [www.duo-gard.com](http://www.duo-gard.com)

**Energy 101** takes a brief look at energy use today and through history. The Union of Concerned Scientists provides it at [www.ucsusa.org/clean\\_energy/](http://www.ucsusa.org/clean_energy/) Special Features.

**Exit Signs** are covered in the March edition of The Energy Observer. If you would like a copy, I can send you the pdf file.

**Metropolitan Hospital** in Grand Rapids has been designed with Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED(tm)) standards. The Health Care Village is the first to be built on a large campus using a village green master plan, which includes retail buildings, a medical office building and numerous other healthcare services. The owner intends to make every building on the site LEED certified. Design features being considered include an ENERGY STAR roof to reduce the absorption of heat by the roof, installation of a vegetated roof on part of the building, alternative transportation fuels supplied on site (options being considered include a hydrogen refueling station and ethanol), patients will be given control of lighting and temperature within a specified range, on-site energy plant will be used as an educational facility for sustainable design and LEED, and extensive plans for measurement and verification so the hospital can track building performance.

**Ontario Government** has selected NERA Economic Consulting to oversee a contracting process that will increase the province's supply of renewable energy. A target of 2,500 MW new generation capacity by 2005 includes 300 MW from renewables to be commissioned as soon as possible. The province wants 5% (1,350 MW) of generation to come from renewables by 2007.

**Great Lakes Green Discovery** will be held on April 14 in the Grand Rapids area. Sponsored by the U.S. Green Building Council, the event will include 5 tours to various LEED buildings and 3 speakers including Jim Hartzfeld, National USGBC Chairman. Register at <http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevalD=63129>

**California Grocery Store** made the switch in 2003 to onsite cogeneration for its basic power. Excess heat from cogeneration was used for air conditioning, condensing and sub-cooling merchandise refrigeration, domestic hot water, and space heating. This case study describes and illustrates the technical aspects of the cogeneration units at [http://www.forester.net/de\\_0311\\_grocery.html](http://www.forester.net/de_0311_grocery.html)

**Michigan State University** researchers are investigating how much energy can be generated by walking on treadmills. Researchers will compare energy production from students, horses, pigs, and gerbils. The project was announced on April 1.

**Rebuild Michigan Energy Services** provides technical assistance and financial incentives to public schools, colleges, universities, local governments, and public housing authorities to improve the energy efficiency of their buildings. More than 270 schools, colleges, and municipalities have benefited from these services already. For more information visit [www.michigan.gov/eormes](http://www.michigan.gov/eormes)

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**Building a Healthy Future: The Role of the Built Environment** is sponsored by the Wege Foundation and Aquinas College. The lecture by Christine Ervin, President of the U.S. Green Building Council, will be on April 29, 4:00-5:30 pm at the Aquinas College Performing Arts Center. RSVP by April 22 to [development@aquinas.edu](mailto:development@aquinas.edu)

**Inventions & Innovation**, within the U.S. Department of Energy, recently launched its redesigned Web site. The new site features an enhanced interactive format and updated information about technologies, partners, funding opportunities, and resources. One improvement is the Pre-Application Self-Assessment Tool, which walks potential grantees through a brief questionnaire and features a schedule of Announcements of Funding Opportunities.  
<http://www.eere.energy.gov/inventions>

**Fuel Cells in Construction - Issues and Applications** will be held at Wayne State on May 5, 7:15 am -12:30 pm. Contact: <http://www.esd.org/2004FuelCell.htm>

**Hydrogen Highway** that Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger predicts will take California motorists to the environmental future is taking shape. Twenty-one of the 200 stations are scheduled to be in operation by year's end.

**New DOE Industrial Technologies Program Web Site** contains program and deployment information, information resources, and financial opportunities for the aluminum, chemicals, forest products, glass, metal casting, mining, petroleum, and steel technologies.  
<http://www.eere.energy.gov/industry/>

**University of Western Ontario** will spend up to Cdn\$250,000 to develop eight mobile solar video systems that will permit continuous video surveillance of wildlife at remote locations across Canada. Each unit will consist of advanced television components with a solar PV supply that will allow field deployment for up to six months a year.



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[www.michigan.gov/energyoffice](http://www.michigan.gov/energyoffice) under Publications.

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